

**KATHERINE CONRAD, on behalf of
herself and all wrongful death
beneficiaries of JOHN ALEC CONRAD,

Plaintiff,**

VS.

**MERCK & CO., INC., A FOREIGN
CORPORATION; FICTITIOUS
DEFENDANTS A, B, C AND D, BEING
THOSE PERSONS, FIRMS OR
CORPORATIONS WHOSE FRAUD, SCHEME
AND/OR OTHER WRONGFUL CONDUCT
CAUSED OR CONTRIBUTED TO THE
PLAINTIFF'S INJURIES AND DAMAGES
DEFINED HEREIN, WHO ARE UNKNOWN
AT THE PRESENT TIME, BUT WILL BE
SUBSTITUTED BY AMENDMENT WHEN
ASCERTAINED,**

Defendants.

THIS CAUSE came before the Court on the motion of Defendant Merck & Co. Inc. to stay all pre-trial proceedings in this action, pending its likely transfer by the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation to *In re VIOXX Products Liab. Litig.* (MDL-1657), the proceeding that has been established in the Eastern District of Louisiana to coordinate all product liability cases involving alleged health risks from Vioxx®. The Court, having considered the motion and the

entire record in the cause finds that the motion is well-taken and should be granted.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that all pre-trial proceedings in this action shall be stayed, pending its likely transfer by the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation to *In re VIOXX Products Liab. Litig.* (MDL-1657).

THIS, the 21st day of December, 2007.

/s/ Eugene M. Bogen
U. S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE